



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 8211/1  
File Number: DWERVT1504  
Duration of Permit: 31 March 2019 to 31 March 2021

### PERMIT HOLDER

Santrev Pty Ltd

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 10 on Deposited Plan 30340, Mogumber Road West, Mogumber

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.31 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8211/1.

### CONDITIONS

#### 1. Avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:

- (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

#### 2. Dieback and weed control

When undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no dieback or weed-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

#### 3. Flora Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage an *environmental specialist* to demarcate all *threatened flora* and *priority flora* individuals and the relevant *buffers*, located within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8211/1.
- (b) The Permit Holder shall ensure that clearing of *threatened flora* is limited to 25 individuals of *Banksia mimica*.
- (c) The Permit Holder shall ensure that clearing of *priority flora* is limited to 25 individuals of *Banksia dallanneyi* subsp. *pollostia*.

#### 4. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
  - (i) the boundaries of clearing undertaken, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
  - (ii) the date(s) that clearing occurred;
  - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);
  - (iv) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 1 of this Permit; and
  - (v) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback* in accordance with condition 2 of this Permit.
- (b) In relation to flora management pursuant to condition 3 of this Permit:
  - (i) the name and location of each *threatened flora* and/or *priority flora* recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
  - (ii) actions taken to demarcate each *threatened flora* and/or *priority flora* recorded and the relevant *buffers*; and
  - (iii) the number of individuals of each *threatened flora* and/or *priority flora* cleared.

#### 5. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:
  - (i) of records required under condition 4 of this Permit; and
  - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each year.
- (c) Prior to 31 December 2020, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 4 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 5(a) of this Permit.

#### DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

**buffer** means 50 metres for *rare flora* and 10 metres for *priority flora*;

**CEO** means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

**dieback** means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

**environmental specialist** means a person who is engaged by the Permit Holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit;

**fill** means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

**mulch** means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation;

**priority flora** means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the *Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia* (as amended);

***threatened flora*** means those plant taxa listed as threatened flora under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*;

***weed/s*** means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*;  
or
- (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

S. Weighell

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Simon Weighell  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

Officer delegated under section 20  
of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*




1 March 2019

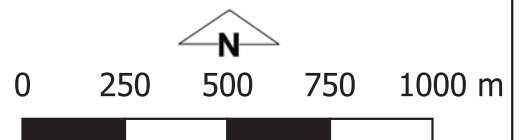


# Plan 8211/1



## Legend

-  CPS areas approved to clear base layers
-  Road Centrelines
-  Cadastre
- Image



MGA 94  
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

S. Weingill

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20  
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986



GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8211/1  
Permit type: Area Permit  
Application date: 2 October 2018

### 1.2. Proponent details

Applicant's name: Santrev Pty Ltd

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 10 on Deposited Plan 30340, Mogumber  
Local Government Authority: Shire of Victoria Plains  
Localities: Mogumber  
GPS coordinates: Latitude: -31.0425 Longitude: 115.9742

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category
0.31	-	Mechanical Removal	Road construction or upgrades

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision: Granted  
Decision Date: 1 March 2019

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). It has been concluded that the proposed clearing is at variance to Principles (a), (c) and (d), and is not or is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Through the assessment, it was identified that the application area includes threatened and priority flora species and is within a threatened ecological community and priority ecological community. An avoid/minimise condition has been placed on the permit to limit impacts to only that necessary for the clearing purpose. A flora management condition has been placed on the clearing permit to limit the amount of clearing of threatened and priority flora species. A weed and dieback management condition has also been placed on the clearing permit to minimise the risk of weeds and dieback spreading into adjacent vegetation that contains similar or better values.

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to any unacceptable risk to the environment.

## 2. Site Information

**Clearing Description** The application area is approximately 0.83 ha which includes 0.52 ha of an existing cleared track and 0.31 ha of native vegetation (Figure 1).

**Vegetation Description** The vegetation within the application area is mapped as (Shepherd et al 2001):

- Beard vegetation association 949: Low woodland; banksia; and
- Beard vegetation association 1015: Mosaic; Mixed scrub-heath / Shrublands; dryandra thicket.

A Flora, Vegetation, Fauna and Black Cockatoo Assessment (360 Environmental 2018) identified two remnant vegetation types within the application area:

- AhEp: Mid Sparse heathland of *Allocasuarina humilis*, *Eremaea pauciflora* and *Xanthorrhoea* sp. over Mid sparse sedgeland of *Mesomelaena pseudostygia*, *M. tetragona* and *Chordifex sinuosus* over low sparse forbland of *Patersonia occidentalis* var. *latifolia*, *Schoenus pleiostemoneus*, *Conostylis teretifolia* subsp. *teretifolia* and *Caustis dioica*.
- EtBa: Low open woodland of *Eucalyptus tottiana*, *Banksia attenuata* and *Nuytsia floribunda* over low open shrubland of *Allocasuarina humilis*, *Eremaea pauciflora* and *Xanthorrhoea* sp. over Mid sparse sedgeland of *Caustis dioica* and *Mesomelaena pseudostygia*.

**Vegetation Condition** The application area has been determined to be in a completely degraded to excellent condition (Keighery 1994), described as:

- Completely Degraded; The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species.
- Excellent; Vegetation structure intact, disturbance affecting individual species and weeds are non-aggressive species.



- Soil/Landform Type:** Three main soil types have been mapped in the application area (Schoknecht et al. 2004):
- Capitella 3 gentle slope Phase (Cp3b) subsystem is described as very gently inclined slopes, plain, some dunes; pale deep and gravelly deep sand.
  - Capitella 5 dry Phase (Cp5a) subsystem is described as low dunes in sand filled drainage depressions, no shallow ground water influence; pale and yellow deep sands.
  - Capitella 6 low dunes Phase (Cp6a) subsystem is described as plain with very low dunes; pale and yellow deep sands.

**Comment** The local area considered in the assessment of this application is a 10 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the application area. The local area retains approximately 58 per cent native vegetation cover.

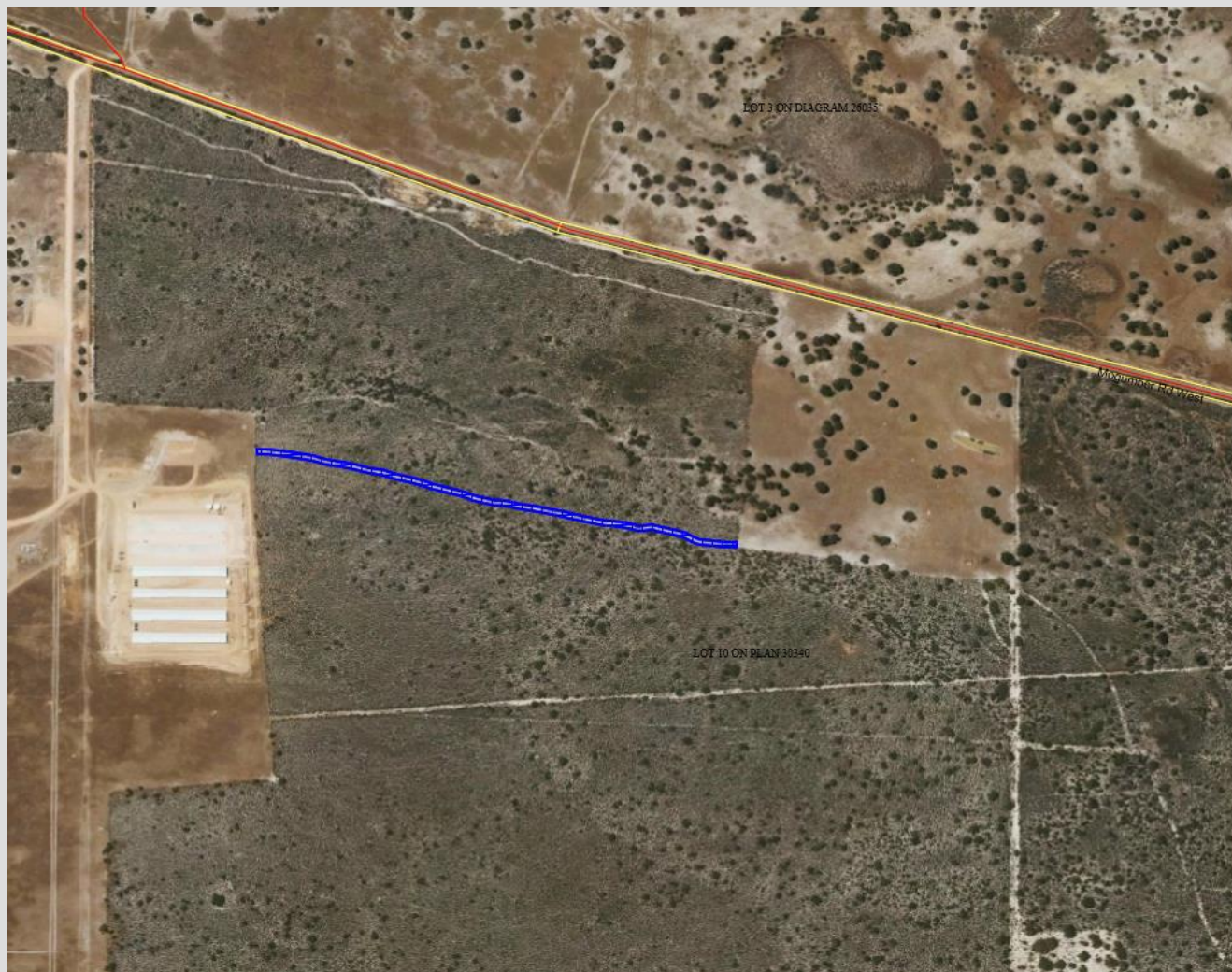


Figure 1 Application area in blue

### 3. Minimisation and mitigation measures

The applicant provided the following avoidance and mitigation measures within the clearing permit application (360 Environmental 2018):

- Utilising an existing cleared access track for the proposed access road, rather than creating new tracks to limit unnecessary clearing of native vegetation.
- Appropriate speed limits will be set, signposted and adhered to on all site access roads to avoid fauna strike. Speed restrictions will apply in areas between dusk and dawn where there is a high risk of fauna/vehicle collision.
- Larger trees will be avoided where possible, mulching tractors will preferentially clear areas of shrubs and trees less than 100 millimetres diameter at breast height.
- Dieback and weed control will be in place to minimise the risk of spread or introduction of dieback or new weed species.
- Vegetation clearing will be scheduled to occur immediately before planned earthworks to minimise the potential for dust, where practicable.

### 4. Assessment of application against clearing principles

#### (a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity.

##### Proposed clearing is at variance to this Principle

The application is for the clearing of 0.31 hectares of native vegetation for widening an access track. A survey of flora, vegetation and fauna commissioned by the applicant was undertaken in March 2018 over a 274.3 ha area with the majority of the area (242.1 ha) in Excellent condition (360 Environmental 2018).

The survey noted that a total of 119 flora species from 64 genera and 23 families were identified within the larger survey area encompassing the application area (360 Environmental 2018). As discussed under Section 2, two vegetation types were recorded within the application area. These vegetation types include Mid Sparse heathland of *Allocasuarina humilis*, *Eremaea pauciflora* and *Xanthorrhoea* sp. and Low open woodland of *Eucalyptus tottiana*, *Banksia attenuata* and *Nuytsia floribunda*.

As outlined in the assessment under principle (b), the application area contains suitable foraging habitat for *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's Cockatoo, White-tailed Short-billed Black Cockatoo). The application area may also provide suitable habitat for the *Throscodectes xederoides* (Mogumber Bush Cricket, Northern Throscoco).

As discussed under principle (c), the proposed clearing will remove 25 individuals of the threatened (T) species, *Banksia mimica*. DBCA (2019) considered that the impact of taking 25 plants for the purpose of an access track represented an 8.6 per cent impact to the total known number of plants of the population and a 0.4 per cent impact to the total number of plants known for this species, and considered the clearing of 25 plants would not be considered to be a significant impact to this species.

A total of five species of priority (P) flora listed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) were recorded in the survey area (360 Environmental 2018):

- *Banksia dallanneyi* subsp. *pollostia* (P3)
- *Banksia pteridifolia* subsp. *vernalis* (P3)
- *Isopogon drummondii* (P3)
- *Stylidium nonscandens* (P3)
- *Banksia chamaephyton* (P4).

*Banksia dallanneyi* subsp. *pollostia* (P3) was recorded in the application area. The survey identified 42 individuals with 25 occurring within the application area (360 Environmental 2018). DBCA (2019) advised that, as targeted surveys were not undertaken across the entirety of Lot 10 on Deposited Plan 30340, Mogumber, and greater survey effort occurred within the application area, this has likely resulted in a larger proportion of *B. dallanneyi* subsp. *pollostia* being proposed for impact. DBCA advised that *B. dallanneyi* subsp. *pollostia* is known from several populations in the Midwest, Swan and Wheatbelt Regions, including some within conservation estate, and the population which occurs in the area under application is within the taxon's known distribution. DBCA (2019) considered that the impact of taking 25 plants for the purpose of an access track is unlikely to have a significant impact to the conservation of this species.

None of the four other priority flora species were recorded within the application area.

As outlined in the assessment of principle (d), the application area includes vegetation that is considered to be an occurrence of the Commonwealth listed threatened ecological community (TEC) known as 'Banksia Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain' (herein referred to as the Banksia Woodlands TEC) and the State listed priority ecological community (PEC) known as 'Banksia Dominated Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA Region' (Priority 3).

Mechanical clearing increases the risk of spreading weeds and dieback into native vegetation adjacent to the application area. Potential impacts to biodiversity outside the application area as a result of the proposed clearing may occur.

Given that the application area contains areas of vegetation in Excellent (Keighery 1994) condition, supports threatened and priority flora, supports vegetation that is mapped as a PEC, is considered to be part of an occurrence of a TEC, and contains habitat for conservation significant fauna, the area comprises a high level of biodiversity. The proposed clearing is at variance to this principle.

Taking into account the applicant's avoidance and minimisation measures outlined under section 3, the relatively small amount of clearing (0.13 per cent of the extent within the survey area), the location of the clearing next to an already disturbed track, and DBCA's advice regarding the level of impacts to *B. mimica* and *B. dallanneyi* subsp. *pollostia*, no significant residual impacts are considered likely to occur. Therefore it is considered that an offset is not required and impacts can be adequately addressed through flora and weed and dieback management conditions.

**(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna.**

**Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The majority of the vegetation within the application area is in Excellent condition. The application area contains heath habitat comprised primarily of isolated *Eucalyptus tottiana* trees over a midstorey of scattered *Banksia attenuata* and *B. menziesii*, with a dense understorey of shrubs (360 Environmental 2018). No water sources are present within the application area and the majority of the area appears to have been unburnt for at least five years (360 Environmental 2018).

According to available datasets, three threatened and two priority fauna species have been recorded within the local area (DBCA 2007-). Three of these are associated with wetland/watercourse environments and are unlikely to be impacted by the proposed clearing. The application area contains foraging habitat for *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's Cockatoo, White-tailed Short-billed Black Cockatoo) and may also provide suitable habitat for the *Throscodectes xederoides* (Mogumber Bush Cricket, Northern Throscoco).

Foraging habitat for *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Threatened) is present within the application area (360 Environmental 2018). A total of 5.84 ha of suitable black cockatoo foraging habitat was identified within the fauna survey area; 0.22 ha of which is located within the application area (360 Environmental 2018). A total of 29 potential breeding trees were recorded in the fauna survey area; one *Eucalyptus tottiana* potential breeding tree is located within the application area (360 Environmental 2018). No evidence of breeding or roosting, and no suitable hollows were recorded (360 Environmental 2018).

According to available information (DBCA 2007-), the *Throscodectes xederoides* is found in heathland vegetation.

The local area is moderately cleared, with approximately 58 per cent native vegetation remaining. Available habitat for the *Calyptrorhynchus latirostris* and *Throscodectes xederoides* in the local area is not considered to be significantly limited. Clearing to widen the track would not substantially reduce available habitat.

Despite the presence of suitable habitat for black cockatoos and possibly for the *Throscodectes xederoides*, and the condition of the vegetation, the vegetation within the application area is not likely to be significant habitat for fauna.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora.**

**Proposed clearing is at variance to this Principle**

Twelve threatened (T) flora species have been mapped within the local area. The closest occurrence is of *Banksia mimica*. The survey recorded *Banksia mimica* within the survey area including within the application area (360 Environmental 2018). Therefore, the proposed clearing is at variance to this principle.

*B. mimica* is a prostrate, rhizomatous shrub with underground stems and is likely to occur as clumps that are vegetative clones (Commonwealth of Australia 2019). DBCA (2019) advised that *B. mimica* is known from 18 populations and approximately 6042 plants from three disjunct localities of Mogumber/Red Gully/Boonanarring, the Whicher Range near Busselton and in the Wattle Grove/Forrestfield area. The majority of known populations and plants of this species occur in the Mogumber/Red Gully/Boonanarring locality. DBCA (2019) advised that there were four known subpopulations of *B. mimica* located on Lot 10 on Deposited Plan 30340, Mogumber. The locations of *B. mimica* recorded in the survey were new plant locations which had not been previously recorded. The combined total of known *B. mimica* plants within Lot 10 on Deposited Plan 30340, Mogumber, is 288 plants. DBCA (2019) considered that, given the flora survey was undertaken using quadrat locations, targeted surveys of Lot 10 on Deposited Plan 30340, Mogumber would likely locate additional individuals.

DBCA (2019) considered that the impact of taking 25 plants for the purpose of an access track represented an 8.6 per cent impact to the total known number of plants of the population and a 0.4 per cent impact to the total number of plants known for this species, and considered the clearing of 25 plants would not be considered to be a significant impact to this species. Therefore, it is considered that an offset is not required. The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) considers that impacts can be adequately addressed through flora and weed and dieback management conditions.

**(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened ecological community.**

**Proposed clearing is at variance to this Principle**

According to available datasets, two TECs have been recorded within the local area.

The application area is mapped within the extent of the Banksia Woodlands TEC listed as endangered under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). This community typically has a prominent tree layer of *Banksia* sometimes with scattered eucalypts and other tree species within or above the Banksia canopy, and the understorey is species-rich with many wildflowers, including sclerophyllous shrubs, sedges and herbs (Commonwealth of Australia 2016). The application area contains 0.16 ha of the TEC. Therefore, the proposed clearing is at variance to this principle.

It is considered that the impact would be minimal considering the clearing of 0.16 ha of the ecological community equates to approximately 0.00005 per cent of its estimated current extent (336,000 hectares). Management actions have been applied within the permit consistent with the applicant's proposal to undertake dieback and weed management, which will minimise the risk of spread or introduction of dieback or new weed species into the adjacent areas of bushland in a mostly excellent condition. It is considered that an offset is not required.

Another TEC located approximately 8 kilometres from the application area is the *Claypans with mid dense shrublands of Melaleuca lateritia over herbs* (Priority1) which is associated with different vegetation types than those found within the application area, and is therefore unlikely to be found within the application area.

**(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.**

**Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750 (i.e. pre-European settlement) (Commonwealth of Australia 2001). This is considered to be the threshold level below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level.

The application area is located in the Swan Coastal Plain Bioregion, which retains approximately 38.6 per cent of its pre-European native vegetation extent (Government of Western Australia 2018). The application area is mapped as Beard vegetation associations 949 and 1015, which both retain greater than 30 per cent pre-European native vegetation extent (57 per cent and 34 per cent respectively) (Government of Western Australia 2018).

The local area is moderately cleared, with approximately 58 per cent (approximately 18,000 ha) native vegetation remaining.

Given the extent of vegetation remaining as outlined above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.



	Pre-European (ha)	Current Extent (ha)	Extent remaining (%)	Current extent in all DBCA managed lands (ha)	Extent remaining in all DBCA managed lands (proportion of Pre-European extent) (%)
<b>IBRA bioregion</b>					
Swan Coastal Plain	1,501,222	578,997	38.6	222,766	14.8
<b>Beard vegetation association</b>					
949	209,983	120,150	57.2	67,824	32.3
1015	19,557	6,639	33.9	2,927	15.0

**(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.**

**Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle**

According to available datasets, the application area does not intersect any watercourses or wetlands. The application area is not the buffer area for any wetlands or watercourses. The application area is also not within an area that is subject to flooding or waterlogging (refer to Principle (g)). The proposed clearing is therefore not at variance to this principle.

**(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.**

**Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The application area occurs within three soil subsystems mapped by the former Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (DAFWA) (now Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development) (DAFWA, 2017):

- Capitella 3 gentle slope Phase (Cp3b) subsystem is described as very gently inclined slopes, plain, some dunes; pale deep and gravelly deep sand.
- Capitella 5 dry Phase (Cp5a) subsystem is described as low dunes in sand filled drainage depressions, no shallow ground water influence; pale and yellow deep sands.
- Capitella 6 low dunes Phase (Cp6a) subsystem is described as plain with very low dunes; pale and yellow deep sands.

Based on the mapped land degradation risk outlined in the table below, the application area has a relatively low likelihood of water erosion, flooding and water logging (Schoknecht et al. 2004). The application area has a moderate risk of salinity.

Wind erosion is mapped at 70 per cent of the map units having a high to extreme risk of wind erosion (Schoknecht et al. 2004). Subsurface Acidification for Capitella 5 dry Phase and Capitella 6 low dunes Phase is mapped at 70 per cent of the map unit having a high to extreme risk of subsurface acidification.

Despite the higher risk levels for salinity, wind erosion and subsurface acidification, it is considered that clearing to widen an existing track is not likely to be of a scale that would result in appreciable land degradation. The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Risk categories	Cp3b	Cp5a	Cp6a
Wind erosion	>70% of map unit has a high to extreme wind erosion risk	>70% of map unit has a high to extreme wind erosion risk	>70% of map unit has a high to extreme wind erosion risk
Water erosion	<3% of map unit has a high to extreme water erosion risk	10-30% of map unit has a high to extreme water erosion risk	<3% of map unit has a high to extreme water erosion risk
Salinity	30-50% of map unit has a moderate to high salinity risk or is presently saline	30-50% of map unit has a moderate to high salinity risk or is presently saline	30-50% of map unit has a moderate to high salinity risk or is presently saline
Subsurface Acidification	30-50% of map unit has a high subsurface acidification risk or is presently acid	>70% of map unit has a high subsurface acidification risk or is presently acid	>70% of map unit has a high subsurface acidification risk or is presently acid
Flood risk	<3% of the map unit has a moderate to high flood risk	10-30% of the map unit has a moderate to high flood risk	<3% of the map unit has a moderate to high flood risk
Water logging	3-10% of map unit has a moderate to very high waterlogging risk	10-30% of map unit has a moderate to very high waterlogging risk	10-30% of map unit has a moderate to very high waterlogging risk

**(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.**

**Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The application area is not located within or adjacent to conservation areas. The closest reserve is the Mogumber West Nature Reserve approximately 1.8 kilometres to the northeast of the application area. Other reserves (Lake Wannamal Nature Reserve and Mogumber Nature Reserve) are located to the southeast of the application area. The application area is not expected to form a direct ecological linkage between the reserves. As the proposed clearing is not expected to impact on the environmental values of any conservation areas, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.**

**Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

According to available datasets, the application area does not intersect any watercourses or wetlands. The proposed clearing is not likely to increase the risk of water logging or flooding due to the soil types present (refer to Principle (g)). Given the small application area along an already existing track, the proposed removal of native vegetation is unlikely to significantly degrade water quality within the area. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.**

**Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The proposed clearing is not likely to increase the risk of water logging or flooding due to the soil types present (refer to Principle (g)). Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Planning instruments and other relevant matters.**

The clearing permit application was received on 2 October 2018 and was advertised on the DWER website on 26 October 2018 with a public submission period closing 17 November 2018. No public submissions were received in relation to this application.

The Project was referred to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy (DotEE) due to potential impacts on Matters of National Environmental Significance under the EPBC Act, including Banksia Woodlands TEC and habitat for Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptrorhynchus latirostris*). On 14 December 2018, DotEE determined that the proposed action (EPBC 2018/8311) was not a controlled action (DotEE 2018).

No aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped within the application area.

The Shire of Victoria Plains (2019) has advised that the current use of the land for intensive agricultural purposes was approved by the Council under the Shire of Victoria Plains Local Planning Scheme No.5 with no provisions to prohibit development within the application area. The application area is not identified as having any major salinity problems and clearing is considered minor as the extent of other similar vegetation in the district appears to be well represented. The Shire considers that access track forms part of the original development and therefore, no development approval is required from the Shire.

## **5. References**

- 360 Environmental (2018). Mogumber Poultry Farm Access Road, Application for a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit – Area Permit, Supporting document. September 2018. (DWER Ref: A1724999)
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001). National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Commonwealth of Australia (2016). Banksia Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain: a nationally protected ecological community, Canberra.
- Commonwealth of Australia (2019). Species Profile and Threats Database: Banksia mimica – Summer Honeypot SPRAT Profile. Retrieved from: [http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon\\_id=82765](http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon_id=82765), Accessed 20 February 2019.
- Department of Agriculture and Food WA (2017). NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Agriculture and Food. Government of Western Australia. URL: <https://maps.agric.wa.gov.au/nrm-info/>.
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (2007-). NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed 5 November 2018.
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**GIS Databases:**

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- DAFWA Heritage
- DBCA Estate
- DEC Covenant
- Groundwater salinity
- Hydrography, linear
- National Trust WA Covenant
- Remnant vegetation
- SAC bio datasets (accessed December 2018)
- Soils, Statewide
- Topographic contours
- Wetlands